

## Listing of Claims

Claims 1-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended):

A trailer pulling apparatus comprising:

- (a) a quill having a bore and having an outer surface;
- (b) trailer mounting means fixedly attached to the quill;
- (c) a tongue having a forward end and having a rearward end, the tongue extending through the bore of the quill;
- (d) a hitch fixedly attached to the forward end of the tongue;
- (e) spring hinging means;
- (f) a pin latch; and,
- (g) slide controlling means fixedly attached to the quill, the slide controlling means being adapted for alternately resisting and permitting sliding movement of the tongue through the bore of the quill; the slide control means comprising a shear pin, a first shear pin receiving aperture, and a second shear pin receiving aperture, the first and second shear pin receiving apertures respectively extending through the quill and through the tongue, the first and second shear pin receiving apertures being alignable and being fitted for receipts of the shear pin; the slide control means further comprising a pin guiding bracket, the shear pin being mounted slidably within the pin guiding bracket for movement between first and second positions, the shear pin extending into the quill's bore

while in its first position, the shear pin being withdrawn  
from the first position while in the second position; the  
spring biasing means being operatively connected to the  
shear pin and to the pin guiding bracket, the spring biasing  
means being adapted for moving the shear pin to the first  
position; [The trailing pulling apparatus of Claim 4 further  
a) the pin latch operatively spanning between the pin  
guiding bracket and the shear pin, the pin latch being  
adapted for releasably holding the shear pin in the second  
position.

**Claim 6 (previously presented):**

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 5 further comprising pin releasing means fixedly attached to the forward end of the tongue, the pin releasing means being adapted for, upon rearward sliding motion of the tongue through the quill's bore, automatically disengaging the pin latch, freeing the shear pin for spring biased movement to the first position.

**Claim 7 (previously presented):**

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the pin latch comprises a trip arm and slot combination.

**Claim 8 (previously presented):**

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the pin releasing means comprises a trip bar.

**Claim 9** (previously presented):

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the hitch comprises an eye, ball socket or clevis hitch.

**Claim 10** (previously presented):

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 9 wherein the quill and the tongue comprise lengths of structural steel having square or rectangular cross-sectional shapes.

**Claim 11** (previously presented):

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 10 further comprising a slide stop fixedly attached to the rearward end of the tongue.

**Claim 12** (previously presented):

The trailer pulling apparatus of Claim 11 further comprising a pull handle fixedly attached to the shear pin.